

A Tornatellinid Land Mollusk from the Solomon Islands

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THE FAMILY TORNATELLINIDAE is widely distributed in the Pacific. In the Western and Southwestern Pacific it has been recorded from the East Indies, New Guinea, New Caledonia, Lord Howe Island, Norfolk Island, Australia, the Kermadec Islands, and New Zealand. No records appear to exist for the family in the Solomon Islands. Mr. R. R. Forster collected some land snails on Savo Island in 1944, and among these was a tube of tornatellid snails. They prove to belong to the genus *Lamellidea* and are here described as new. The small land Mollusca of the Solomon Islands have been only superficially collected and this and other forms of the Tornatellinidae will probably prove to be widely distributed in the group.

LAMELLIDEA Pilsbry, 1910

1910 *Lamellidea* Pilsbry, *Nautilus* 23: 123.

Genotype: "*Pupa*" *peponum* Gould.

Lamellidea solomonensis n. sp.

Fig. 1

Shell imperforate, oblong-conic, reddish brown, faintly translucent. Surface rather shining, marked with irregular growth striae. Spire convex in outline, apex obtuse. Suture rather appressed; whorls somewhat con-

stricted below the suture. Whorls five and a half to six, marked with rather irregular growth lines; last whorl comparatively large, about two thirds the total length of the shell. Aperture comparatively small, ovate, slightly oblique. Adult shell with a single parietal lamella, its outer margin flaring outwards and to a varying extent, downwards. Palatal wall without teeth or lamellae in most adult shells, columella vertical, twisted to a varying degree, with an obsolete tooth in some specimens. Peristome thin, flattened in the middle.

The armature of juvenile shells is more complex. The parietal lamella is more strongly developed and is folded on itself. The columella bears a strong tooth and this is backed by a weaker tooth set higher on the columella and further back in the aperture in some specimens. The remains of the stronger columellar tooth persist into the adult stage in some specimens. There are also widely spaced vertical palatal barriers as in *L. serrata* (Pease) and *L. subcylindrica* (Quadrass and Moellendorff). These barriers also may persist into the subadult stage. The degree of development of serrations on these palatal barriers also varies considerably.

Savo Island, Solomon Islands, collected R. R. Forster, May, 1944. Holotype (M. F. 2505) and paratypes (M. F. 2506) in Dominion Museum, Wellington, New Zealand. Paratypes in Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu.

¹ Dominion Museum, Wellington, New Zealand. Manuscript received November 9, 1954.

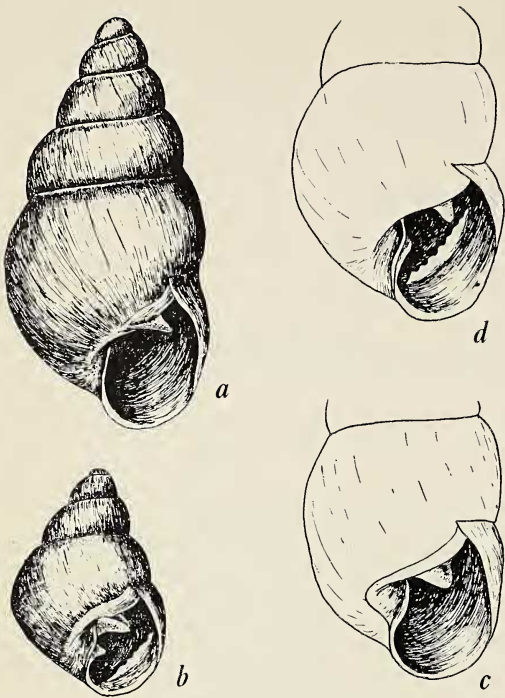


FIG. 1. *Lamellidea solomonensis* n. sp. *a*, Holotype, 2.95 × 1.54 mm.; *b*, juvenile shell, 1.68 × 1.14 mm.; *c*, aperture of six-whorled paratype, 3.32 × 1.5 mm.; *d*, aperture of five-and-a-half-whorled paratype, 3.0 × 1.54 mm.

Lamellidea solomonensis is closely related by shell characters to *L. microstoma* (Quadras and

TABLE 1
DATA ON THE SHELLS OF *Lamellidea solomonensis* N. SP.
(Measurements in Millimeters)

	HOLOTYPE	PARATYPE	PARATYPE
Number of whorls.....	5½	6	5½
Length.....	2.95	3.32	3.0
Diameter....	1.54	1.54	1.54
Length of last whorl.....	1.82	1.95	1.86
Aperture axis.....	1.04	1.09	1.04
Diameter....	0.68	0.77	0.68

Moellendorff) and *L. subcylindrica* (Quadras and Moellendorff) from the Mariana Islands. From *L. microstoma* it differs in the outline of the whorls and the subsutural constriction and from *L. subcylindrica* it may be distinguished by the slightly appressed suture and the subsutural constriction. The occasional channelling of the body whorl about the middle in *L. subcylindrica* is foreshadowed in the flattening of the body whorl in *L. solomonensis*.

The genus *Lamellidea* has been recorded from the Polynesian islands as far to the east as Hawaii, from the Marshall, the Mariana, and the Bonin Islands.